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enberg (Cat. 1813) and *V. bicolor* of Pursh (Fl. 1814), who evidently regarded it as native and for that reason, perhaps, a distinct species. Even if further comparison with European specimens should prove the determination of Torrey and Gray correct, its claims to a place in our indigenous flora seem to me very strong. In Pennsylvania it is widely diffused, but rare, yet abundant wherever found. It occurs in grassy meadows and on rocky slopes, remote from dwellings and never in cultivated grounds. Its entire behavior is that of a native, and hence unlike that of *V. tricolor* of the gardens, which, though it comes up from self-sown seeds, soon disappears, when not reinforced by fresh plantings, and shows no disposition to spread beyond culture. Mr. Reverchon, in the last number of the GAZETTE, reports it from Dallas county, Texas, and says: "I am satisfied it is native. I have met it in large patches in remote woods and prairies, sometimes *very far* from settlements" To this I may add the fact that it has also been collected in Colorado by Mr. Wm. A. Henry, who thus wrote me Aug. 29, 1876—"I send you more of the violet. It grows on a warm, dry slope at the mouth of Boulder Canon, in a rather inaccessible place. I have seen a few stalks further up the canon. It blooms very early, along with *Leucocrinum montanum*, so that it has probably escaped the notice of other collectors. I gathered it three years before in the same place. It *could* have been introduced, but I greatly doubt that seeds of recent introduction could have reached the spot where I found these plants."

I may here mention another addition to the flora of Colorado. Aubrey H. Smith, Esq., has kindly given me specimens of *Goodyera repens*, R. Br., collected by him on Pike's Peak, Aug. 1878. —THOS. C. PORTER.

LEPIDIDIUM CAMPESTRE, LINN.—Last September as I was just coming out of the hay fever, a farmer brought me a package of what he said was now becoming a troublesome weed. I instinctively smelled of the plant and brought back some decided symptoms of my malady. The weed proved to be *L. campestre*. As this has hitherto been a rare plant, it is of interest to know that with us it is no longer so. But this crucifer has struggled hard to attain its acclimatization. An adventurer from Europe, it came, as I believe, from Great Britain, where it was accustomed to a mild and humid climate, hence, though a great seed-bearer, ere it could become prolific of individuals it had to struggle through several generations of years in a climate involving extremes so opposite to the conditions of its native land. —S. LOCKWOOD, *Freehold, N. Jersey*.

ZOSTERA MARINA, L.—A. Engler, in a recent number of the *Botanische Zeitung*, has published some interesting observations concerning the "Eel grass," so common in the bays of our own coast. His observations relate chiefly to fertilization and growth. The following is an abstract of his paper from a late number of *Nature*.

At first the thread like stigma lies on the neighboring anther lobes,

mostly those of the two different anthers; next the style elevates itself, and so the stigma comes out of the narrow slit in the sheath, and receives pollen from some of the older spadices.

After fertilization the thread like stigmas disappear and at the same moment will be found clusters of as yet unopened anthers around the stigmaless gynœcia, these now having fertilized ovules. This was probably the stage observed by Hofmeister when he described the fertilization as taking place inside the unopened inflorescence. Certainly the anther lobes are not at this stage always emptied of their contents, and certainly when the emptying takes place the gynœcia are often beyond the power of being fertilized.

The condition of the buds also engaged Engler's attention, because the sympodial bud system appeared similar to many Araceæ. The main shoot develops sterile buds from the axil of the nodal scale and then after developing 4 to 6 internodes in the bud grows upward, giving rise to leaves frequently a metre long but never in the same year is inflorescence observed. In the axils of the lower leaves fertile buds are developed which lie alternately to right and left of the main axis. These grow for a great while along with the main axis, the axis of growth thus presenting a flattened cone-shaped form with two furrows superimposed on a cylindrical axis.—C. R. B.

*ASPLENIUM BRADLEYI*.—During the fall of 1876 while collecting ferns on White River, in northwestern Arkansas, a few specimens of *Asplenium Bradleyi* were found. Since then, by searching closely several localities have been discovered, which have yielded some fine specimens. The species seems to grow upon sandstone, exclusively, as it has not been found on any other formation, and to require situations more or less shaded.

As the plant had never before been found west of the Mississippi River, the discovery is important, because it shows a greater geographical range than the species was supposed to have. It occurs in Kentucky and East Tennessee, and probably will be found across the northern part of this state. The species is not confined to the streams, but has been found upon isolated ledges several miles inland.

*Notholæna dealbata*, Kunze, grows in northwestern Arkansas abundantly, on limestone ledges which are isolated and have a southern exposure. This species, so far as I know, has never been reported from this state, nor farther south than Kansas.—F. L. HARVEY, *Ark. Ind. Univ., Fayetteville, Ark.*

REPLY TO MR. MEEHAN'S CRITICISMS.—*Aquilegia chrysantha*. In Mr. Meehan's observations on the Wheeler Report "it does not strike those acquainted with the" book and its contents "as being particularly careful records of the facts." For Rothrock says that *A. chrysantha* is "hard to distinguish from *A. cærulea* by any mere description, as they exhibit transition at all points" (Wheeler Rep., p 59, lines 1 and 2). This is not only a similar observation, but also a stronger